

The Gant County Fiscal Court met in Regular Session on Monday, March 21, 2005, at 7:00 P.M. at the Grant County Courthouse in Williamstown, Kentucky 41097, with Richard Austin, Magistrate 1st District, Present; Patricia Conrad, Magistrate 2nd District, Present; Kenny Messer, Magistrate 3rd District, Present, and Hon. Darrell Link, County Judge/Executive, Present and Presiding.

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Judge Link opened in prayer and then led in the Pledge of Allegiance. Those present were: Bernard Mardis-Cable TV, James Perkins, and Deputy Sheriff Marty Souder.

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Motion of Richard Austin and seconded by Kenny Messer it is hereby ordered to approve the minutes of the March 07, 2005, meeting as presented.

The following votes were taken: Richard Austin, Magistrate 1st District, votes Yes; Patricia Conrad, Magistrate 2nd District, votes Yes; Kenny Messer, Magistrate 3rd District, votes Yes; and Hon. Darrell Link, County Judge/Executive, votes Yes.

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Judge Link recognized the guests and asked if anyone wanted to address the Court at this time. No one did.

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Judge Link presented for review and approval the Claims in the General Expense Fund, Road Fund, Jail Fund, and L.G.E.A. Fund, for the month of March, 2005, along with the transfers needed to pay said claims. He asked if there were any questions about them.

Judge Link updated on the costs of gasoline and the high rising price that everyone must pay including the Sheriff's Department and the Grant County Road Department. He said that no one had anticipated that at this time in 2005 we would be paying over \$2.00 per gallon for gas and from what we are hearing it won't get any better and may continue to rise. He will try to prepare for this in putting together the next budget which he is

working on, but for the balance of this fiscal year we may be doing more transfers to try to meet these obligations. He is sure everyone at home is experiencing the same in meeting their obligations and he does not know where it will stop.

Motion of Patricia Conrad and seconded by Kenny Messer it is hereby ordered to approve Claims No. 01-1007 thru 01-1051 in the amount of \$43,705.32 paid out of the General Expense Fund; Claims No. 02-0377 thru 02-0393 in the amount of \$6,436.18 paid out of the Road Fund, Claims No. 03-1525 thru 03-1551 in the amount of \$36,545.97 paid out of the Jail Fund, and Claim No. 04-00012 in the amount of \$500.00 paid out of the L.G.E.A. Fund, for the month of March, 2005, along with the transfers needed to pay said claims, as presented.

The following votes were taken: Richard Austin, Magistrate 1st District, votes Yes; Patricia Conrad, Magistrate 2nd District, votes Yes; Kenny Messer, Magistrate 3rd District, votes Yes; and Hon. Darrell L. Link, County Judge/Executive, votes Yes.

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Judge Link presented for review and action the Recommendation of the Grant County Planning Commission for a Zone Change from Agricultural One (A-1) to Rural Residential (RR) on 3 acres of land located on the south side of Cason Lane, approximately 1.0 mile from the intersection of Sherman Mt. Zion Road and Cason Lane, Grant County, Kentucky, owned by applicants Patrick A. and Angela McLafferty. He also presented for a first reading Ordinance No. 02-2005-559 relating to an Amendment to the Grant County Zoning Map for said applicants, along with the Notice to run in the local paper showing second reading to be on Monday, April 04, 2005, at 7:00 P.M. or as soon thereafter as possible, if approved. They are as follows:

Motion of Kenny Messer and seconded by Patricia Conrad it is hereby ordered to accept the Recommendation of the Grant County Planning Commission for a Zone

Change for applicants Patrick A. and Angela McLafferty as presented, and to further approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 02-2005-559 relating to an Amendment to the Grant County Zoning Map for said applicants, along with the Notice to run in the local paper as presented.

The following votes were taken: Richard Austin, Magistrate 1st District, votes Yes; Patricia Conrad, Magistrate 2nd District, votes Yes; Kenny Messer, Magistrate 3rd District, votes Yes; and Hon. Darrell Link, County Judge/Executive, votes Yes.

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Judge Link presented the Memorandum and request of Sheriff Middleton to approve the Appointments of Richard Brandon Markesbery and Brian S. Maines to serve as Grant County Deputy Sheriffs effective April 01, 2005, at a salary each of \$26,500.00 plus the KLEFPF pay, after completion of the 16 week academy training. He also presented the Appointments for review and approval. They are as follows: Judge Link stated that at the Caucus meeting there had been some question as to whether or not they could get into school immediately at Richmond and said that Sheriff Middleton called Captain Humphrey who said that they would be able to get in the next school around May 08th. Some discussion was held on whether they would ride along with another deputy or be on their own. Deputy Sheriff Marty Souder was present to answer questions and stated that they are to start one month earlier in order to get some in house training on how the office works and the interoffice handling of paperwork etc. such as serving warrants, small claims, civil summons, and subpoenas, during this interim period. He explained that they can ride along with another officer but won't be on their own except for prisoner transporting. He stated that they will be able to do that during the first month and that Richard Markesbery did transporting as a Deputy at the Jail, but that working on their

own would be too much of a liability and that would not be allowed.

Motion of Kenny Messer and seconded by Richard Austin it is hereby ordered to approve the Appointments of Richard Brandon Markesbery and Brian S. Maines to serve as Grant County Deputy Sheriffs as requested by Sheriff Randy Middleton and presented by Judge Darrell Link.

The following votes were taken: Richard Austin, Magistrate 1st District, votes Yes; Patricia Conrad, Magistrate 2nd District, votes Yes; Kenny Messer, Magistrate 3rd District, votes Yes; and Hon. Darrell Link, County Judge/Executive, votes Yes.

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Judge Link presented the County Treasurer's Monthly Cash Position Report for February, 2005. No action is required.

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Judge Link asked if the Court had any questions or comments. He announced that he is happy to inform everyone that Governor Fletcher did sign the Budget as of Saturday, and that he was very appreciative of all the hard work he and the Legislative bodies put in on completing the budget, specifically our legislators, Rep. Royce Adams and Senator Damon Thayer who worked very hard to insure all of our projects were in the budget as we requested. He stated that Grant County is to get \$14,500,000.00 for a Judicial Court-house in there. There is 2.1 million for Water and Sanitation lines which will help us or facilitate the Water Districts to get water to everybody's home as soon as they bid those out. He said that Bullock Pen Water District would be having a meeting on April 05th and encouraged everyone to attend that meeting to find out more about those projects as to when they will be bid out and constructed. We are to get 17 million for bridge replacements. 10 million of that is for replacing the Williamstown Viaduct Railroad Bridge south of town which is due for construction in 2006, the construction of the old iron bridge over Eagle Creek on Lusby Mill Road which should start this year, the

railroad bridge over Ten Mile Creek over Napoleon Zion Station Road, and the railroad Bridge on Hwy. 330 in Corinth, and also there is money in there for the study of the Railroad bridge over Corinth Stringtown Road. He gave a general update on the costs of these bridges when they were originally built with bond money, and said they cost around \$70,000.00 which was a considerable difference in what they will cost to replace them now, over a million dollars for each of them. This will be the last of the iron bridges built a century ago and now they are being replaced and the cost of replacement is tremendous. He said we were to get \$750,000.00 for the Barnes Road Improvement and said that Senator Thayer is working with the Transportation Secretary and planning to have him come out to that location and look at that area. He also said that he heard that Transportation Secretary Bailey had resigned today, but that he will be working with Commissioner Nighbert who will be filling this position temporarily and that he is good friend and very easy to work with. He explained that he is happy that all of these were in the budget that was passed and everyone worked hard in a bipartisan manner and we are very appreciative of the change that will be made in the near future for Grant County. He also expressed thanks to each Magistrate for all of their hard work in helping bring those monies home. He knows they had a lot of calls and meetings working on these projects but in the end it paid off and he appreciates their hard work on behalf of the county. Magistrate Pat Conrad mentioned the work in Dry Ridge in front of Eagle Bank which is being done and she is very happy to see that. It has been long and hard and she knows that the businesses in that area have suffered. Judge Link also expressed his happiness and eagerness to have this project completed and hopefully this will happen mid summer. He said that when he had met with the Transportation Cabinet the last time

they had indicated it would be November 2005, but he just met with them last week and now they are giving a little more encouragement that that conclusion may move up to July or August of this year. He is hoping that is the case because he knows those businesses are suffering, they have to be. Magistrate Austin updated on a conversation that he had with a couple of the men who worked on the Road in Dry Ridge in front of Wal Mart and Long John Silvers, and one of the men had said that a sidewalk had not been poured and that was the reason it set there all winter like it was. It did not have anything to do with the road. One section of the sidewalk near Jim Simpson's office or closer back to the corner, that whole thing set there all winter because the sidewalk was not poured. Judge Link asked who was to pour the sidewalk and Magistrate Austin thought it was the contractor, Hinkle Company, who was to do that but had not done it. They said they tried to pour it in November, but they had a State Inspector in, they put a thermometer in the ground and said "No, you can't do it, too much moisture". He said that it set there all winter with all that inconvenience because the sidewalk wasn't finished which was frustrating. Magistrate Messer asked about our blacktopping projects and when the bidders might give an estimate on when they will begin blacktopping them. Judge Link said he has not heard from any of the contractors but it is time to think about that now that spring is here and said he would check with them to see when they plan to begin. Magistrate Conrad stated that the Road Department has been out working on the pot holes and patching them. Some discussion was held on the trash on a number of the roads which is disheartening to everyone. Judge Link stated that he would talk with Bryan Miles and try to get some more resources out there to help get them cleaned up. He said that he thought they were working more on U.S. 25 since that is where you see

the most trash, and then going East to West, but he will talk to him regarding the trash cleanup. Magistrate Messer stated that it was probably time now for the various groups to get involved in trash cleanup to make money.

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Judge Link reminded Fiscal Court that the next Caucus meeting will be on Monday, March 28, 2005, at 5:30 P.M., and that the next meeting of the Fiscal Court will be on Monday, April 04, 2005, at 7:00 P.M.

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Motion of Patricia Conrad and seconded by Kenny Messer it is hereby ordered to Adjourn until Monday, April 04, 2005, at 7:00 P.M.

The following votes were taken: Richard Austin, Magistrate 1st District, votes Yes; Patricia Conrad, Magistrate 2nd District, votes Yes; Kenny Messer, Magistrate 3rd District, votes Yes; and Hon. Darrell Link, County Judge/Executive, votes Yes.

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GRANT COUNTY JUDGE/EXECUTIVE